GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:497
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
SETTING UP OF MINI- TEA PROCESSING FACTORIES
Krishnadas Shri N.N.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has adopted any new scheme to set up minitea processing factories for small and medium tea growers in non-traditional tea producing zones in the country through the Tea Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any programme to increase the productivity of tea in non-traditional tea producing zones; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) : Government under its Quality Upgradation and Product Diversification Scheme has approved a subsidy @ 40% of the total cost for setting up of micro-mini factories by the Self Help Groups. For modernization of the processing factories a subsidy @ 25% of the actual cost of machinery is provided.

(c) & (d) : The Government has set up Special Purpose Tea Fund for financing replantation and rejuvenation of old tea bushes aimed at improving the productivity of the tea gardens. Under the Scheme, the borrowers is required to contribute 25% of the cost, 50% of the cost will be loan from Special Purpose Tea Fund and remaining 25% of the cost will be provided as subsidy from the Government. The scheme is expected to result in increasing the yield, lowering the cost of production and in improving the quality of teas leading to higher price realization.